

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application and stand rejected. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. Claims 9 and 14 have been amended to correct some typographical errors. The Examiner's reconsideration of the claims rejection is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Serbetciouglu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,719,918) (hereinafter "Serbetciouglu"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Rejection of Claim 1

The Office Action cites col. 3, lines 14-30 of Serbetciouglu as disclosing each and every limitation of claim 1. The recited portion of Serbetciouglu discloses six (6) means, which are summarized below:

- (a) *terminal means* for transmitting and receiving messages on signaling channels;
 - (b) *switching means* for supporting Short Messages;
 - (c) *interface means* for exchanging the Short Messages between the terminal means; and
- a *transaction handling system* comprising:
- (d) *means for receiving digitally encoded information from one or more sources*, such as magnetically encoded credit card information and bar codes;
 - (e) *means for generating a unique identifier for the digitally encoded information*;
- and

(f) *means for converting the digitally encoded information and the identifier into a message compatible with the terminal means.*

The Office Action argues the “terminal means” and “interface means” of Serbetciouglu disclose the “short message interfacing device” claimed in claim 1.

Claim 1 claims, *inter alia*, “*in response to a request for information service included in a short message received by the short message interfacing device.*” According to the Office Action’s arguments provided above, the “terminal means” and “interface means” of Serbetciouglu should receive a request for information service included in a *short message*. The recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose the terminal means or interface means receiving a *request for information* included in a short message. Thus, the recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “in response to a request for information service included in a short message received by the short message interfacing device,” as claimed in claim 1.

The Office Action further argues the “transaction handling system” of Serbetciouglu discloses the “short message service engine” claimed in claim 1.

Claim 1 claims, *inter alia*, “*a short message service engine...for requesting the information service from at least one application server and receiving result of the information service, and then sending the result of the information service back to the short message interfacing device in a form of short message.*” According to the Office Action’s arguments provided above, the “transaction handling system” of Serbetciouglu should: (a) *request the information service* from at least one application server; (b) *receive result of the information service*; and (c) *send the result of the information service back to the short message interfacing device in the form of a short message*. The transaction

handling system of Serbetciouglu does not disclose (a), (b) *and* (c). Instead, the transaction handling system *receives digitally encoded information* (e.g., magnetically encoded credit card information, bar codes), and *converts the digitally encoded information* into a message compatible with the terminal means for transmission using short messages. The transaction handling system does not “*request the information service*,” as claimed in claim 1. Thus, the recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “a short message service engine...for requesting the information service from at least one application server and receiving result of the information service, and then sending the result of the information service back to the short message interfacing device in a form of short message,” as claimed in claim 1.

B. Rejection of Claim 9

The Office Action argues that col. 6, lines 52-63 Serbetciouglu disclose “at least one *application server*, for receiving requests for information, and providing results of the information service,” as claimed in claim 9. Col. 6, lines 52-63 of Serbetciouglu disclose a “telemetry terminal 324” for reporting and interpreting watt-hour meter readings. Telemetry devices are well-known in the art as a means for measuring and transmitting data. The “telemetry terminal 324” of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “at least one *application server*.”

Further, as addressed in greater detail above in Part A, Serbetciouglu does not disclose “in response to a request for information service included in a short message received by the short message center interface” and “for requesting the information service from said at least one application server,” as claimed in claim 9.

C. Rejection of Claim 15

As described in greater detail above in Part B, the “telemetry terminal 324” of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “at least one *application server*,” as claimed in claim 15.

Further, as addressed in greater detail above in Part A, Serbetciouglu does not disclose “in response to a request for information service included in a short message received by the short message daemon” and “for requesting the information service from said at least one application server,” as claimed in claim 15. It is further submitted that the recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose a “short message daemon,” also claimed in claim 15.

D. Rejection of Claim 20

The Office Action cites col. 3, lines 24-30 of Serbetciouglu as disclosing “extracting an information service code from the short message,” as claimed in claim 20. Col. 3, lines 24-30 of Serbetciouglu disclose receiving digitally encoded information from one or more sources. A unique identifier for the digitally encoded information is provided. The recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose that the digitally encoded information is sent via a *short message*, or that an information service code is *extracted*, as the Office Action suggests. Instead, the recited portion of Serbetciouglu discloses that a “means for converting” is used to convert the digitally encoded information and identifier into a short message. Thus, the recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “extracting an information service code from the short message,” as claimed in claim 20.

The Office Action cites col. 3, lines 62-67 of Serbetciouglu as disclosing “based on the information service code, *retrieving results* of the information service from at least one application server,” as claimed in claim 20. Col. 3, lines 62-67 of Serbetciouglu disclose a transaction handling system including a means for encrypting digitally encoded information before it is formed into a short message, and means for decrypting the encrypted information. It is unclear to Applicants how the means for *encrypting and decrypting* discloses the step of “*retrieving results*.” The recited portion of Serbetciouglu does not disclose “based on the information service code, retrieving results of the information service from at least one application server,” as claimed in claim 20.

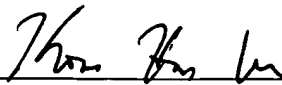

E. Conclusion

Accordingly, the Office Action does not show that each and every claim limitation of independent claims 1, 9, 15 and 20 are anticipated by Serbetciouglu. Thus, claims 1, 9, 15 and 20 are believed to be patentably distinguishable over Serbetciouglu.

Claims 4 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Serbetciouglu in view of Lorello et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,459,904). Dependent claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-19 and 21-23 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the independent claims. Withdrawal of the rejection of 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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